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Preface

This special volume is a collection of selected papers from two conferences: the Second CTS Conference on Combinatorics and Algorithms held at Chiao Tung University, Hsin Chu, Taiwan, ROC, May 12–14, 2000, and the 2000 Combinatorics Conference held at Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, ROC, January 28–29, 2000. A total of 29+10 invited and contributed, talks were delivered. All papers published in this volume have gone through normal review process established by Discrete Mathematics. One of the goals of the conferences is to expose local young mathematicians and students to a wide range of topics in discrete mathematics to remind them that there is no lack of interesting and exciting problems in this area. This goal was amply achieved by the varieties of talks delivered by fascinating speakers, and also by the reflection of shining faces in the audience. The papers in this volume constitute a good sample of the talks and bear a good witness to the spirit of the conference. We thank the Center of Theoretical Sciences and the Mathematical Research Promotion Center for their generous financial support. We thank the authors and the reviewers for their support. We also thank Discrete Mathematics and its chief editor, Prof. Peter Hammer, for sponsoring this special volume. Finally, we thank all the participants of the conferences for making them a success; in particular, those participants coming from abroad like Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Hongkong, Slovenia, and United States.

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